

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the applicant representative, Mr. Shun Yao (Reg. No. 59,242) on May 13, 2009. During the telephone conference, Mr. Yao has agreed and authorized examiner to amend the specification to overcome the specification objection to provide proper antecedent basis for claims 13-15 and further, to amend the dependency of claim 23, which is now depend on Claim 16 instead of cancelled claim 22.

Specification:

Please replace the paragraph [0040], page 8, as follows:

[0040] FIG. 1 illustrates a networked computer system 100 that incorporates one embodiment of the invention. The networked computer system 100 includes a computer 101 that incorporates a CPU 103, a memory 105, and a network interface 107. The network interface 107 provides the computer 101 with access to a network 109 over a network connection 108. The computer 101 also includes an I/O interface 111 that can be connected to a user interface device(s) 113, a storage system 115, and a removable-media data device 117.

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The removable-media data device 117 can read a computer readable media 119 that typically contains a program product 121. The storage system 115 (along with the removable-media data device 117) and the computer readable media 119 comprising a computer storage medium such as a file storage mechanism. The program product 121 on the computer readable media 119 is generally read into the memory 105 as a program 123. In addition, the program product 121, or updates to same, can be provided from the network as computer instruction signals embodied in a transmission medium (with or without a carrier wave upon which the signals are modulated or other data transporting technology--including light, radio, and electronic signaling) through the network interface 107. One skilled in the art will understand that a device in communication with the computer 101 can also be connected to the network 109 through the network interface 107 using the computer 101.

Claim:a. Referring to claim 23:

Please replace claim 23 as follows:

The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising: a packet receiver mechanism configured to receive a wireless communication; a determination mechanism configured to determine whether said wireless communication received by the packet receiver mechanism originated from said network device or from a second network device that was not provisioned by said wireless access point; and a router mechanism configured to route said wireless communication responsive to the determination mechanism.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, filed March 16, 2009 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6, 9-20, 23-25 are allowed.

Reasons for allowance: Allowable subject matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a method, apparatus and computer-readable storage medium comprising the uniquely distinct feature of: "establishing communication between the provisioning device and the network device over a preferred channel, wherein the preferred channel is a bidirectional, location-limited channel which has a demonstrative identification property and an authenticity property;

pre-authenticating said network device, wherein pre-authenticating said network device involves:

exchanging key commitment information between said provisioning device and said network device over said bidirectional preferred channel;

exchanging keys between said provisioning device and said network device over a bidirectional channel other than the preferred channel;

providing provisioning information to said network device over said bidirectional preferred channel, wherein the provisioning information comprises:

a first set of provisioning information which is used exclusively to establish secure and authenticated communication between the provisioning device and the said network device using a second channel; and

other provisioning information comprising at least one of application-specific information and device-specific assignment information;

whereby said network device can automatically configure itself for secure communication over a network responsive to said first and other provisioning information, wherein the secure communication can be over the second channel".

The prior art of record, taken either singly or in combination, fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of applicant's independent claim, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C 102 or 103 would be proper. The claimed invention is therefore considered to be in condition for allowance as being novel and nonobvious over prior art.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NIRAV PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-5936. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 am - 4:30 pm (M-F).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 571-272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/N. P./

Examiner, Art Unit 2435

/Kimyen Vu/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2435